

State of Maryland Basic Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program Certification for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard

SIP #23-04 Part IV

Prepared for: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Prepared by:
Maryland Department of the Environment



Certification that Maryland's Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program Addresses the Requirements of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in the Baltimore, MD Ozone Nonattainment Area, the Maryland Portion of the Washington, DC-MD-VA Ozone Nonattainment Area, and the Maryland Portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD Ozone Nonattainment Area; and Meets the Environmental Protection Agency's Basic Performance Standard for Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Programs

Purpose

The State of Maryland attests that the existing Maryland Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program as implemented in the Baltimore, MD ozone nonattainment area, the Maryland portion of the Washington, DC-MD-VA ozone nonattainment area, and the Maryland portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ozone nonattainment area addresses the requirements of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone, and meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) basic performance standard for motor vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) programs.

Background

On October 7, 2022, EPA reclassified the nonattainment areas of Baltimore, MD; Washington, DC-MD-VA; and Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD from Marginal nonattainment to Moderate nonattainment under the 2015 ozone NAAQS, Determinations of Attainment by the Attainment Date, Extensions of the Attainment Date, and Reclassification of Areas Classified as Marginal for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards, 87 FR 60,897, Friday, October 7, 2022. Consistent with the applicable provisions under Clean Air Act (CAA) section 182(b)(4), moderate ozone nonattainment areas with 1990 urbanized populations of 200,000 or more must implement a basic I/M program. Accordingly, Maryland is required to submit a SIP revision that certifies that the VEIP meets the basic I/M requirements in these nonattainment areas.

Program Description

See Part I of SIP 23-04 for program description.

Summary of Demonstration

In compliance with the CAA, EPA established a basic I/M performance standard, consisting of certain program elements that would provide a baseline of emissions reductions to be achieved in a state I/M program. States have the authority to determine the features of their I/M programs, as long as the state program provides the same or greater level of reductions as the performance standard program would provide. States must demonstrate the equivalence by modeling their program, compared to the performance standard program, using EPA's latest mobile source emissions model.

See Part II of SIP 23-04 for the performance standard modeling.